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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of:

Tripp et al.

Serial No.: 09/003,574

Filed: January 6, 1998

Atty. File No.: 2618-21-1-C1

For: "PARASITE ASTACIN
METALLOENDOPEPTIDASE
PROTEINS"

) Group Art Unit: 1653

) Examiner: Schnizer, H.

) AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE
) UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING
DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS
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D.C., 20231 ON JUNE 16, 2000.

SHERIDAN ROSS P.C.

BY: *[Signature]*

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This Amendment and Response is filed in response to the Office Action mailed from the United States Patent and Trademark Office on March 16, 2000. No fees are believed to be due with this Amendment and Response; however, if fees are due, please debit Deposit Account No. 19-1970.

Please amend and reconsider the above-identified patent application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS: /

Please cancel Claims 18-22 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof.

Please amend Claims 1, 11, 16, and 25, without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof as follows (Applicants note that all pending claims are presented below, whether or not amended herein, for the Examiner's convenience):

Sub 1
1. (Three times amended) An isolated protein encoded by a nucleic acid molecule that hybridizes to the complement of a nucleic acid molecule having a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:29, SEQ ID NO:30, SEQ ID NO:32, and SEQ ID NO:33, under conditions comprising (a) hybridizing in 2X SSPE, 1% Sarkosyl, 5X Denhardts and 0.1 mg/ml denatured salmon sperm and (b) washing in a solution comprising 2X SSPE and 1% Sarkosyl at 55°C; wherein